

February 7, 2019

To: Kansas Senate Ethics, Elections and Local Government Committee

Re: Support for SB 59

Members of the Ethics, Elections and Local Government Committee:

Please accept this statement of support for the passage of SB 49, the Eudora community library act.

I grew up in Shawnee, Kansas and every Wednesday afternoon the public library's book mobile would park across the street from my father's grocery store. It was there that I discovered my love for reading as I was introduced to Joe and Frank Hardy, the Hardy Boys. I tore through Fenton Dixon's series of books and haven't stopped reading since.

I currently am a member of the Heartland Committee to Promote Lifelong Readers. Each committee member reads nearly thirty books a year to construct a list of top ten new books for young adults. I am fortunate to live in Eudora because our library staff does an outstanding job of supplying the youth of Eudora with current YA novels. Teens have a lot of choices today to occupy their leisure time. It's important that Eudora provides our youth with viable alternatives to video games and the Eudora Library does just that.

Our library has existed since being approved by a vote of the people in 1968. SB 59 would keep our tradition of great library service for 50 years going. The establishment of an autonomous district by a joint resolution of the City Commission and the Township Board will bring together a greater representation of our community and increase access to vital resources and partnerships in order to expand our library and programs in the future.

Thank you for considering this bill and how the outcome will improve the quality of life for the Eudora community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert Sailer". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Robert Sailer

Heartland Committee Member